which is higher than the Minimum Support Price (MSP) announced by the Government.

(ix) Assisting the tobacco trade in obtaining larger quantum of credit from the financial institutions for making purchases of tobacco.

(x) Participating in trade fairs & exhibitions abroad and arranging buyer-seller meet to enhance tobacco exports.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Import by STC

4016. SHRI CHIMANBHAI HARIBHAI SHUKLA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of wheat, sugar and edible oil imported by STC during 1993 upto 31st December, 1996;

(b) the expenditure incurred on this so far;

(c) the names of countries from where these commodities have been imported; and

(d) the total quntities of wheat, sugar and edible oil imported and demanded by each State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULI RAMAIAH): (a) and (b) STC did not import wheat during 1993 and upto 31st Dec. 1996. The quantity of sugar and edible oil imported by STC during the period alongwith the expenditure incurred thereon is given below:—

Edible Oil

(Rs. crores)

Year	*Quantity*	*Value*
1993	0.42 Lakh MTs	50.44
1994	1.07 "	188.43
1995	1.49 "	338.61
1996	2.03 "	401.65 (Approx.)
Sugar		
1993	Nil	Nil
1994	4.71 (Approx)	585.52
1995	0.42 (")	66.00
1996	Nil	Nil

(c) STC imported edible oil from Malaysia and Indonesia, Sugar was imported by STC from Thailand, Netherland, U.K., Poland, France, USA and Brazil.

(d) Details of the imported quantities of sugar and edible oil by STC are givem in reply to part (a). However, information relating to the demand by each State for these commodities is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House.

Loss of Legal Case by STC

4017. SHRI NAGMANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether STC contested and lost a legal case in London Court during December, 1996;

(b) whether STCs Solicitors emphasised the need to send STC's witnesses to appear in Court;

(c) whether one of the reasons cited by